

Cruising Main by Lou Jackson

For years I have passed the corner of 100 West and 300 South. Each time I go I see the sign and realize that there is a sheet metal shop there. Through my mind races the question, "Do I need any sheet metal work done?" I think of the pan that should be placed under my refrigerator to catch some wayward condensation drops. There is the duct that should carry warm air from the wood burning stove in the basement to the diningroom above. And then I can't think of anything else.

It's not that I don't need metal work. It's probably that I've bought most of it with my house already. In fact, after talking with Arthur Smith, manager and worker, at Hardy's Sheet Metal Shop, I found that the furnace and duct work in my house was installed and made by that little company that I've become aware of.

The yellow pages indicate that Hardy's has been doing business in Heber Valley for 42 years. Mr. Hardy, who is now 91 and living in Idaho with a daughter, keeps his roots in Heber by maintaining his residence and shop in the care of Arthur Smith, the manager and worker. With this man, who was taught the trade by Mr. Hardy, is Rick Smith, his relative. The training process is still going on. Rick has been working alongside Arthur for the past five years and claims that he could pass the state test for journeymen sheet metal workers. That doesn't seem too important to him right now. He is learning from one who has been serving the valley for 25 years. Together they have met most of the challenges that should rightfully come their way.

At the present time, the new, high efficiency furnaces have required special training, but they have handled service and repairs for all makes. They still do repairs on oil, gas and coal furnaces, but have nothing to do with boilers. They had just done some conversion work and showed me a hopper, and a 250 lb. transmission and some coal burning furnaces they had recently removed. They will install new furnaces and then fabricate all the tin work right in their shop.

Having learned the business from the basement to the roof, there is just about nothing they can't do. Copper steeples used to be one of Arthur's tasks, but on the roof yet are flashings, roof jacks, and chimney covers. Besides the few things mentioned above, they make awnings, door liners, tool boxes, and just about anything a person could ask for.

In the little shop, across the alley, or in their work truck they have the tools that have earned them their livings and reputations.



Rick and Art Smith

An 8 foot brake is probably the biggest tool in the shop. It handles material up to 16 gauge. More thickness would require a power brake. An Easy Edger, a Pexto, and some other, apparently nameless, contraptions stand on a bench where stock is rolled, formed, edged and joined. A big bar roller curves the galvanized steel into all kinds of rounded forms. The semi-round anvils await the sheets of steel and the forming hammers. Power sheers cut and edge big jobs, but the familiar tin snips and other hand tools bring many of the geometric forms to completion. The lock former bends the sheets of metal five times, so the joined ends will never separate.

It is a pleasure to talk to men who use tools and fabricate items that are so necessary for the kind of living we do. I reflected on my past, the metal shop classes that I thoroughly enjoyed in junior high school and college. I could see the boxes that my boys had made in their classes. I marveled that something so three dimensional and geometrically solid could be made of flat sheets of silver-colored metal. The tools that help make the strange and complicated shapes are marvelous and beyond the ownership of the average handyman. It is to the craftsman one must go to obtain these treasures.

How does one gauge the worth of the stock? "With the margin of profit so small, one has to know the cost of the material and how long it will take to do the job," Arthur indicated. Competition can be fierce and traveling great distances to do a job can eat up any profit. The Smiths serve Wasatch County residents and leave the area only when there is nothing to do here. Summit County may see them occasionally. If you want to see them,

you'll have to phone or see them when they are at the shop. Mondays through Fridays, see them at 8 a.m. before they leave, at 1 p.m., if they are in for lunch, or at 5 p.m. when they get back. If you're lucky they might be in the shop fabricating when you pass by. If they don't have what you need, just place an order and they will fill it.

When construction is slow, or when it's winter, they will probably be doing furnace repairs. It's nice to know they are around when the old heaters just don't function. I hear a wolf's head wind blowing around the corners of my house, and it is not a fright, for now I know who put my furnace to its task of cheering my home. If it stops its service, I'll call my friends at Hardy's and be secure again.

HOME BUYER
CLINIC

By Robert C. Bates
President
American Land Title Association



rong Rights?

wrong in its determination of rights in land, the insured is financially protected as his title policy provides.

As an example of what can happen in the area of hidden title problems, the tranquility of a buyer's home ownership in a southern state was shattered more than three years after purchase when two children of deceased former owners presented a substantial claim against the buyer. The children contended that the deed from their parents to the person from whom the buyer purchased was void because the parents were mentally incompetent when they conveyed their interest in the property.

There was no indication of this claim at the time of the buyer's real estate purchase.

Under its policy of owner's title insurance, the title company retained an attorney to defend the insured buyer. After efforts to resolve the matter were unsuccessful, separate lawsuits were filed attacking the validity of the deed from the deceased parents, subsequent conveyance of the property, and the wills of the late parents which would have disposed of the home in the same manner as the deed.

Finally, the title insurer paid a substantial sum to settle the matter and paid for related attorney fees and costs. This enabled the in-

sured buyer to keep his home without experiencing any financial loss.

Owner's title insurance protecting a home buyer typically is issued in the amount of the purchase price. Lender's title insurance protecting a real estate lender is issued in the amount of the loan. Needless to say, these safeguards are more than welcome when the determination of rights in land at the time the investment is made proves to be wrong.

For free information on home buying precautions, write the American Land Title Association, Box 556, Washington, D.C. 20044.

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e Value

ing.) This is key to making a good first impression.

3. A little paint on the inside



ints For Homeowners

Home Improvement, Safety And Economy
WHEN ACCURACY COUNTS

How do you define accuracy? The generally accepted definition is *exactness*, a vital essential to the successful completion of any home improvement or repair project. It is the practice of accuracy that enables a homeowner to stand back and observe with pride the new storage shelves, floor tiling or light fixture installation, knowing it is perfect in every detail and therefore long-lasting.

Like most home projects, the successful improvement began with measuring—when accuracy counts most. A shelf board a fraction too short, unsightly placed-out flooring, or a crooked wall socket does not indicate exactness. To avoid such disasters, Lufkin—makers of household and industrial measuring tapes—advises homeowners and professionals alike to *always measure twice* before assuming the



figures are exact.

That's the practice also at the Olympics, where precise measurement to the hundredth of a meter determines who wins "The Gold" in the throwing events—javelin, discus, hammer and shot—or in the high, long and triple jumps and pole vault. Lufkin is there, too—the judges' tapes at the XXII Olympiad this summer will bear that century-old name, selected for official use "when accuracy counts."

You may not be going to Moscow to see the Games, but the tapes can probably be found at the hardware store.